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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/017,276	12/13/2001	Richard Soltys	110184.406	6054
68100	7590	06/27/2007	EXAMINER	
SEED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP, PLLC			NGUYEN, KIM T	
701 FIFTH AVENUE			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
SUITE 5400			3714	
SEATTLE, WA 98104				

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
06/27/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/017,276	SOLTYS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kim T. Nguyen	3714	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 April 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-7,9-37,41-49 and 57-62 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 1-7,9-37,41-49 and 57 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 58-62 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All. b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/13/07, 3/6/07 & 4/4/07.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

The amendment filed on 4/10/07 has been entered. By this amendment, claims 58-62 have been added, and claims 1-7, 9-37, 41-49 and 57-62 are now pending in the application.

Claim Objections

1. Claim 58 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 58, lines 8-9, the claimed limitation "the first number of playing number of playing cards" should be corrected to "the first number of playing cards".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 58-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The newly added claims 58-62 contain new matter. In particular, the disclosure as originally filed does not disclose the sequence having a fixed number (N) of pseudo playing cards, determining whether to print

marking on each of a second number of playing cards based on the fixed number (N) of pseudo playing cards and the first number of playing cards set forth in claim 58; determining whether to print marking on each of a second number of playing cards includes counting the first number of playing cards set forth in claim 59; determining a fixed number (m) of playing cards that will not be dealt to participants in the playing card game, wherein the fixed number (m) of playing cards is used in determining whether to print marking on each of a second number of playing cards set forth in claim 60; and the limitations set forth in claims 61-62.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-7, 9-37, 41-49 and 57 are allowed.
4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of record fails to show or fairly suggest a method of distributing playing cards as set forth in independent claims 1, 9, 12, 14, 16, 19, 25, 27, 29, 32, 41, 46 and 49. According to applicant's arguments in pages 14-19 of the amendment filed on 4/10/07, claims 1-7, 9-37, 41-49 and 57 are allowed over the prior art of record.

Response to Arguments

Claims 1-7, 9-37, 41-49 and 57 are allowed over the cited prior arts, therefore, applicant's arguments in page 14 through page 19, lines 1-4, with respect to claims 1-7, 9-37, 41-49 and 57 are moot.

5. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action. Any response to this final action should be mailed to:

Box AF:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, (for formal communications; please mark
"EXPEDITED PROCEDURE").

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4441. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM ET.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xuan Thai, can be reached on (571) 272-7147. The central official fax number is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Date: June 23, 2007


Kim T. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3714